

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 25236 01 OF 02 311321Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 BIB-01 DHA-05 ACDA-07 MCT-01 /073 W
-----129033 311348Z /50

R 311314Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7844
INFO AMCONSUL BORDEAUX
AMCONSUL LYON
AMCONSUL MARSEILLE
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 25236

FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT PARIS DATED AUGUST 30 1977 FROM
NICE RPTD FOR YOUR ACTION:

QUOTE: NICE 402

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PINS, FR
SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UP ON CORSICAN RALLY

REF: NICE A-22, NICE 387

FOLLOWING THE UPC RALLY VARIOUS OFFICIALS, PARTIES AND
INTEREST GROUPS HAVE MADE THEIR POSITIONS KNOWN TO THE
PUBLIC. A SUMMARY OF THESE IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CORSICA PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED
THAT IT WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE RALLY CALLED FOR
SEPTEMBER 9 BY THE MAYOR OF AJACCIO (SEE REF AIRGRAM).
THE PC INTENDS TO HOLD A RALLY THE SAME DAY, THE PURPOSE
OF WHICH IS TO CONDEMN ALL VIOLENCE AND THE GOVERNMENT
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PAGE 02 PARIS 25236 01 OF 02 311321Z

NEGLECT OF ITS RESPONSIBILITIES TO CORSICA.

2. THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC ANNOUNCED HE WILL MAKE
A TRIP TO CORSICA. HE ALSO ASKED THE PREFECTS TO END
"INADMISSIBLE ACTIONS" (VIOLENCE) AND STATED THAT THE
FACT THAT DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS ARE FREQUENTLY HELD
REQUIRES THAT THOSE WISHING CHANGE MUST DEAL WITH

ELECTED OFFICIALS.

3. CONDEMNATION OF UPC'S PROGRAM OF AUTONOMY AS WELL AS ANY VIOLENCE BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THE PREFET OF THE REGION, YVES BURGALAT, AND OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

4. A STATEMENT BY TWO LEADERS OF "RASSEMBLEMENT ET COORDINATION UNITAIRE DES RAPATRIES ET SPOLIES" (REOURS -- A GROUP REPRESENTING THOSE RESETTLED FROM ALGERIA) DEMANDING BETTER SECURITY BY THE GOVERNMENT TO PROTECT THE "RAPATRIES" WHO HAVE SETTLED IN CORSICA AND WARNING THAT VIOLENCE AGAINST THE "RAPATRIES" IS A CONSTANT THREAT.

5. A STATEMENT BY THE RADICAUX DE GAUCHE (INCLUDING THE TWO MRG DEPUTIES JEAN ZUCCARELLI AND NICOLAS ALFONSI AND THE SENATOR FRANCOIS GIACOBBI) DECRYING SEPARATIST MOVEMENTS, STATING THAT CORSICA IS AN "INTEGRAL" PART OF FRANCE AND NOTING THE WEAKNESS OF THE AUTHORITIES IN ASSURING RESPECT FOR THE LAW. THIS FOLLOWED BY CHARGES BY SOME IDENTIFYING THEMSELVES AS SOCIALIST PARTY MEMBERS THAT THE MRG STATEMENT IMPLIED APPROVAL OF POLICE REPRESSION AND AN INFLEXIBLE ATTITUDE TO THE PROBLEMS OF CORSICA.

6. PARTIAL DESTRUCTION OF A PRINTING FIRM IN NICE WHICH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 PARIS 25236 01 OF 02 311321Z

PRINTS THE AUTONOMY FAVORING MONTHLY "KYRN". NO ONE HAS

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PAGE 01 PARIS 25236 02 OF 02 311320Z

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 25236

YET CLAIMED CREDIT FOR IT.

7. STATEMENT BY MINISTER OF JUSTICE THAT AUTONOMY LEADS
QUICKLY TO SEPARATION.

COMMENT: THE ONLY CONSISTENT THREAD IN ALL OF THIS
APPEARS TO BE A CLARIFICATION OF THE GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE:
I.E. IT DOES NOT FAVOR AUTONOMY, THAT IT WILL
CRACK DOWN ON VIOLENCE, AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS
CONCERNED ABOUT THE FUTURE OF CORSICA. THE MEMBERS OF
THE COMMON PROGRAM SEEM UNABLE TO AGREE ON A UNITED
APPROACH OTHER THAN A CONDEMNATION OF VIOLENCE. THE
COMMUNIST PARTY HAS CALLED FOR A RALLY SEPTEMBER 9
(34TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF CORSICA) AND THE
MRG PARLIAMENTARIANS HAVE CALLED FOR A MEETING OF
ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS IN CORTE ON THAT DAY. EVERYONE IS
ATTEMPTING TO MAKE POLITICAL MILEAGE OUT OF THE
"CORSICAN PROBLEM" AND THE GOVERNMENT APPEARS TO BE
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PAGE 02 PARIS 25236 02 OF 02 311320Z

BANKING ON THE POSITION THAT MOST CORSICANS DO NOT WANT
AUTONOMY AND THAT A SUCCESSFUL CRACK-DOWN ON VIOLENCE
WOULD BE REGISTERED IN VOTER APPROVAL AT THE POLLS IN
MARCH 1978.

EDENSWORD UNQUOTE
HARTMAN

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Message Attributes

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